

Suntech Power Grand Opening

Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer Friday, October 8, 2010

Good morning -- and Knee-how.

Doctor Shee, I am pleased to welcome you to Arizona.

Today, we celebrate a cornerstone in advancing Arizona's competitive position in the global solar marketplace.

Almost eleven months ago – many of you were gathered in my conference room at the Capitol -- as we announced that China's Suntech Power had chosen Arizona for its first U.S. production and distribution center.

That investment kicked off what has been an incredible year of solar commitments by companies around the world – they are coming to our great state to grow and to create good jobs in the renewable energy industry.

Business Facilities magazine calls Arizona the "Solar King" – Number One for both solar manufacturing and the renewable energy industry.

Consider this:

China's Suntech Power Holdings Spain's Rioglass Solar Canada's Linamar Detroit's Tower Automotive California's PowerOne This is Arizona's growing solar industry.

Here, our greatest natural resource, meets a collaborative environment and the research and development strengths of Arizona universities.

When I signed into law SB 1403 -- the renewable energy tax incentive program – the goal was to bring solar manufacturers to Arizona -- and IT'S WORKING!

Since becoming Governor, I've been consistently focused on ensuring Arizona is building its tool chest to attract the industries of our future. Arizona's Comeback is driven by creating quality jobs for Arizonans.

My new Arizona Commerce Authority – with its board of top business leaders -- including Michael Bidwill who I've asked to lead renewable energy growth – is already producing results from an aggressive, more competitive approach.

We're fulfilling my commitment to attract and grow quality jobs – to make Arizona a global solar capitol.

The progress is real. The progress is significant.

So, today, not only do we celebrate the grand opening of Suntech in Arizona – we also celebrate the partnership necessary to advance this significant industry of our future.

I appreciate and welcome Suntech Power, and I know it will thrive in the Arizona sunshine.

Thank you.